

FOR THE ONE

MAKING A WAY
FOR THE ONE.



FOR THE ONE Part 1—The Power of the Gathering Dave Patterson 3.20.2022

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

There is something supernatural that takes place in the HOUSE... something irreplaceable, something beyond our understanding that happens when people come into a gathering of worshippers who have come together to lift up Jesus! THIS IS GOD'S DESIGN FOR HIS CHURCH!

[Matthew 18:12-13]

"If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them wanders away, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost? And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he will rejoice over it more than over the ninety-nine that didn't wander away!"

[Luke 14:23]

So his master said, 'Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full.'

God has a place in the House for those who are not yet in the House.

***People are longing for what you already have and can offer:
Jesus and a place at the Table.***

***Virtual ministry is not God's ongoing plan for maturity and discipleship. It
is the gathering of believers!***

***Every analogy, word picture and example of the New Testament church
has to do with being connected, gathered, in one place at one time and
giving and receiving what only face-face interaction can provide.***

7 THINGS THAT HAPPEN IN THE GATHERING—

1. Sharing the Lord's Supper = Communion

[Acts 20:7]

On the first day of the week, **we gathered with the local believers to share** in the Lord's Supper.

[Acts 2:46]

They worshiped together at the Temple each day, **met in homes for the Lord's Supper**, and **shared their meals** with great joy and generosity.

You can't share in isolation. You can't break bread by yourself.

2. The Sharing of our Resources (Helping the Hurting)

[Acts 2:44]

And all the believers **met together in one place and shared** everything they had.

Generosity is an attribute of God Himself.

***You are going to be most compassionate to people you are connected
with.***

3. The Operation of our Gifts (Both to Give and Receive)

The gifts of God are given for you to use in community.

[1 Corinthians 14:26]

When you come together, **each person has a vital role because each has gifts**. One person might have a song, another a lesson to teach, still another a revelation **from God**. One person might speak in an unknown language, another will offer the interpretation, but all of this should be done to **strengthen the life and faith of the community**.

4. Impartation (The Transfer of Gifts, Anointing and Faith)

[Romans 1:11]

I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong.

[1 Timothy 4:14]

Do not neglect the **spiritual gift you received** through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church **laid their hands on you**.

Paul could not impart faith, strength, and gifts through a letter.

5. The Mutual Transfer of Courage

[Hebrews 10:24-25, AMP]

And let us consider thoughtfully how we may encourage one another to love and to do good deeds, **not forsaking our meeting together** [as believers for worship and instruction], as is the habit of some, but **encouraging one another**; and all the more faithfully as you see the day of Christ's return approaching.

Encourage:

Parakaleō (Greek) = To walk along side and infuse courage, strength, and comfort

6. The Authority of God Resting on the Gathering of Worshippers

[Psalm 22:3]

But You **are** holy, **enthroned** upon the praises of Israel.

Enthroned:

Yasab (Hebrew) = *To sit down, to take one's place, to inhabit and remain*

It's important that you're in the room: We need your strength. We need your passion.

7. The Manifest Presence of Jesus Among Us

[Hebrews 2:12]

So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. He says,
“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the assembly I will sing your praises.”

[Revelation 2:1]

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and **walks among** the seven golden lampstands. (**The 7 Churches**)

[Matthew 18:20]

For when two or three **gather together** in My name, I am there in the midst of them.

There is a place where transformation happens, but it does not happen when I miss the gathering.

FOR MONDAY—

1. Make a fresh commitment to living life in community.
2. Encourage and strengthen someone in your sphere of influence. If appropriate, pray and lay hands on the individual.

ACTION STEP—

Write a Thank You Card to whoever invited you to church, explaining the impact the House of God has had on your life.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. How have you had to pivot in the last couple years? (work, school, church, relationships, etc.) What does the new normal look like for you today? How can you engage at a deeper level moving forward?
2. What type of circumstances did you face before you came to church?
3. Who first invited you to church, and what impact has it had on your life?
4. “There’s a chair for someone in your world.” Who is that person, and what is God asking you to do? How significant is it to help someone gain what you have found in the House of God?
5. Considering Luke 14:23, why does Jesus want His House full? How can this motivate us to build the Church?
6. How does being in community help you overcome challenges?
7. Of the seven things that happen in the gathering, what are a couple that have personally impacted you the most in your church experience. What are longing for the most in your current season of life?
8. How does 1 Corinthians 14, especially verse 26, illustrate that each of our gifts are vital to the Body of Christ? Have you identified your gifts, and how can you use them to build the local church?
9. When has someone from church shared resources (tangible or intangible) that were very timely for you or your family?
10. How does God’s tangible presence rest uniquely in the gathering of believers together? How have you experienced that firsthand?